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PHILADELPHIA REPOSITORY,

AND

WEEKLY REGISTER.

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Albert and Laura.

A SWISS TALE.

Full many a gem of purest ray serene
The dark unfathom'd caves of ocean bear;
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.
Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife,
Their sober wishes never learn'd to stray;
Along the cool sequester'd vale of life
They kept the noiseless tenor of their way.

GRAY.

IT has long been a matter of the deepest regret, that the delightful country of Switzerland should be so meanly subjugated to the insolent ambition of France, whose dangerous power seems aimed at every state which does not connive at her infatuated and tyrannic principles. She would be less hated, did she support her prosperous situation with diffidence, or show humanity after conquest; but that is not the case, and her triumphs are always followed by acts of rapine, and unpardonable cruelty. None have felt the miserable effects of slavery more than the Swiss, and none have less deserved it. They were a people who, enjoying the true blessings of liberty, wished not to aggrandize their own property at the expense of others. For two hundred years they had lived in peace, and rendered themselves an ornament to Europe, when the avarice of the French, which spreads like a pestilence, destroyed their hopes and carried desolation into their land.

The inhabitants of the canton of Uri, harmless and inoffensive, sought no other means of enriching themselves than by the advantages, accruing from agriculture and other quiet pursuits; they seemed to live only for their wives and children; and it has been long the prevailing character of that particular canton, that few were rich, because they looked upon excessive wealth to be, what it is always found,—an effectual bar to happiness. They were almost all husbandmen: they rose early to their task, and, after toiling in the fields till the setting sun denoted the hour of repose to be near, returned to their cottages with the pleasing reflection of having passed a day of virtue, and finding their innocent babes, supported by the fond mother, anxious to contribute to their ease, and dissipate by laughter and caresses the fatigues of labour. In the society of each other they gaily conversed; and when the cool breezes of evening succeeded to the heats of noon day, the elders, seated at the door of their habitations, or under the shade of a lofty tree, amused themselves with seeing their young offspring dance to the flagelet or the lute. Thus passed the lives of these brave and contented people, when the trumpet of France resounded on their frontiers, and awakened them to anxiety and dismay.

Albert and Laura resided in one of the most pleasant villages of the canton; they had been brought up at school together, and as they increased in years their mutual partiality gained new strength. The former was nineteen; his countenance was the seat of health, good-nature, and sweetness, and his actions proclaimed him the simple child of innocence. Laura possessed every virtue that can be expected from mortals in this world; she was about seventeen; her father, who was the only relation Providence had pleased to leave her from early infancy, had been dead about three years before the time when this tale commences. In his last moments he sent for Basil, the father of Albert, and, taking him by the hand, spoke thus:——

"My friend, we have been faithful companions almost from the period that we could lisp each other's names: I have always cherished the firmest sentiments of regard for you, and I know you have felt the same for me: I did a little lament my fate in being just at present compelled to leave this world, but I am now resigned, because it is the will of that all-powerful Creator, who sees every thing, and directs for the best. I should have wished to live a short time longer, that I might have secured the happiness of my daughter: she is a lovely girl, and is now at that age, when she most requires advice and protection. I shall not offend you with excuses for the trouble I give in confiding her to your care until she arrives at years of maturity; for I know your generous heart will not hesitate to adopt, the orphan of a man who has ever been united to you with a brotherly affection."

Basil could not speak for tears, whilst Laura's father paused for breath, and then continued:

"You must not weep," said he, "because you see me depart at these years: I am only as a weary traveller, who, having long buffeted the tempest, feels his anxiety decrease at the prospect of an approaching calm; I shall exchange a precarious existence for a more lasting and happy one in worlds of bliss. I only lament the dangers to which my child may be exposed, unless a friend shields her from the temptations of infamy. Promise me that you will do this; it is my dying wish: your own conscience will applaud you for it in this world, and Heaven, that beholds the exertion of the virtuous with pleasure, will reward you for it in the next."

Basil with difficulty sobbed out, "I will," and in the same moment his friend expired. Here let me pause a moment, and request my readers to imitate the examples of the

good, who, by walking in the paths pointed out by our great Creator, are always enabled to meet death without fear; whilst the wicked, in such moments, besides the torment of present pains, are suffering under the expectation of future ones far more dreadful.

A mutual friendship commenced between Albert and Laura, which was carefully encouraged by Basil; and as they grew up they doted more and more upon each oher. The early part of their lives was spent amidst the greatest joys. Laura was famed for all the accomplishments that so eminently distinguish her sex, and Albert imbibed from his countrymen all those sentiments of liberty and true benevolence which are the leading characteristics, of a freeborn people. When he was in his nineteenth year, he, one afternoon, led the blushing Laura into a parlour where the venerable Basil was sitting with the holy Bible before him, commenting on the wisdom of his Maker, and adoring his works. His two children fell upon their knees: "Father," said Albert, "we hope that we have always done our duty to you; at least we can say that we endeavoured to fulfil it. You have constantly told us our happiness is the most important consideration that occupies your mind; give, then, your consent to our union, and Heaven will surely bless a marriage which is founded in love, and sanctioned by the consent of a good parent."

"My dear children," replied Basil "I can now lay my hands upon this sacred book, and say, that I have done my best for your welfare, and comfort; God forbid that I should be the means of making you uneasy in such a request as this, when there seems a prospect of so much happiness in store for both. Go, sweetest joys of my heart; be married when you will, and my blessings attend you."

Albert and Laura retired to felicitate each other on their good fortune. The neighbours assembled, and decorated their cottage with garlands and other fantastic inventions; nothing was seen on the plain but dancing, festivity, and preparations for the following morning, when the ceremony was to take place. Congratulations were whispered in their ears from every one, and the time passed on jovially, till evening began to approach: they perceived at a distance one of their friends descend with swiftness the mountain, at the foot of which they were sporting; terror was in his countenance—"Cease, young men," Your country is threatened by an ambitious foe, and it is only by the courage of its inhabitants that it can be preserved."

The hearts of the women sunk within them at this intelligence, whilst the eyes of the men sparkled with anger: all crowded round, and demanded to know the particulars.

"Austria," replied the messenger, "has struggled against the numerous hordes of these French robbers. They now over-run her territory; but still she boldly defends herself, and it is only inch by inch that her soldiers lose their ground. France, in order to ensure herself the conquest of the Austrians, wishes to enslave our country, by which she would have better means of irruption into the lands of her brave opponent; and for this purpose does not scruple to attack us, who for two centuries have lived in peace, and injured no one. The only alternative left us is to defy her power."

There was but one sensation agitated the assembly during this recital. The youths fondly embraced each other, and exclaimed, "We will conquer, or die." They immediately resolved to offer their services in the defence of the state. Albert was among the foremost of the heroes. Whilst reflecting on the dangers that were likely, to ensue, he forgot for a moment his beloved Laura; and when he recovered serenity, found her in tears. He immediately consoled her in the best manner he was able, and after begging pardon for his inattention, led her towards home.

(TO BE CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.)

BON MOT,

On the late VICE-CHANCELLOR *of Trinity College,* DUBLIN.

THE Vice-Chancellor was remarkably fond of *ham*. He frequently asserted, that he thought men ought to adhere to the principles in which they were educated, and abide by the customs which belonged to the creed of their fathers. His worship being once present at a table where a *hot ham* was brought into the room, the flavour seemed to delight him; but before he could make an incision, one of the company requested he would answer the following question: "If you, Sir, had been educated a Jew, how would you have acted, if, when you were very hungry, such a ham as this had been placed before you?" "Sir," replied he, "I would have pulled off my hat, made a low bow, and said with Agrippa, *Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.*"

ON THE GENEALOGY OF CERTAIN NAMES.

A Dispute having taken place between a man of the name of *More*, and another of the name of *Thompson*, which of the two could claim the most honourable genealogy. More asserted that all the names ending in *son* were originally of illegitimate births, and attempted to prove it from the following circumstance. He observed that at a certain time, there having been a number of bastard children presented to the parson for baptism, the mothers, to conceal the sirnames of the father's, informed him, (on his asking the father's names) as follows; one said her child was John's son, another that her's was Tom's son, and a third that her's was Dick's son, &c. &c. and thence, said More, these names all originated.—When Thompson insisted that *More* was derived from the same source, and in a more disgraceful manner; for that after the parson thought he had done, one of the company said there was one child more; but no one being able to say whose son *he* was, the parson named him *More*.

SINGULARITIES.

IT is related of *Demophon*, who was gentleman-sewer to Alexander the great, that he was always cold when he stood in the sun, but very hot when he stood in the shade. *Athenagorus* felt no pain from the bite of a scorpion. The *Psilli*, a people in Lybia, if they are stung by serpents or asps, receive no hurt at all; but on the contrary, their bodies are venom to these reptiles. The *Ethiopians*, who inhabit near the river Hydaspis, eat serpents and scorpions without injury or danger. *Lothericus*, of Chysurgion, at the smell of a sturgeon, would be for the time mad. *Andron*, of Argos, was so little thirsty, that he travelled thro' the hot and dry country of Lybia without drink. And *Tiberius Cæsar*, it is said, could see very well in the dark.

ANECDOTE.

WHEN the great Duke of Arglye was one night at the Theatre, in a side box, a person entered the same box, in boots and spurs. The Duke arose from his, and with great ceremony, expressed his thanks to the stranger, who, somewhat confused, desired to know for what reason they were thus bestowed. The Duke gravely replied—"For not bringing your horse into the box."

MEMOIRS
OF
Tippoo Sultaun,
LATE SOVEREIGN OF MYSORE.

[CONCLUDED.]

Of his Library.

HIS library consisted of about two thousand volumes in the various branches of Asiatic Literature, and an extensive collection of original state papers, of a nature the most interesting and important. These valuable documents constitute a sufficient stock of materials for a complete history of the reigns of Hyder Alli Khan and Tippoo Sultaun, and the proofs which they afford of the systematic and unremitting ardour with which the late Sultaun laboured at the subversion of the British power in India, are numerous, and of the most unequivocal kind. In this collection are likewise a register of his *dreams*, which was discovered by Colonel Kirkpatrick, in an escrutoire amongst several papers of a secret nature. Hubbub Oollah knew there was such a book of the Sultaun's composition, but had never seen it, as the Sultaun always manifested a peculiar anxiety to conceal it from the view of any one, who happened to approach him whilst he was either reading or writing in it. Of these extraordinary productions *six* only have been as yet translated. By some of these it appears, that war and conquest, and the destruction of the Kaufers (Infidels) were not less subjects of his sleeping than his waking thoughts.

General character of the Sultaun, inferred from his habits, maxims, discourses, &c.

His thoughts were constantly bent on war and military preparations. He has been frequently heard to say, "He would rather live two days like a tyger, than two hundred years like a sheep;" and in confirmation of this opinion, he adopted as the emblem of his state, and as a species of armorial bearing, the figure of a royal tyger, whose head and stripes constituted the chief ornament of his throne, and of almost every article which belonged to him.

During the siege, Hubbub Oollah was present at a Durbar, when Tippoo observed to Budr ul Zeman Khan, (who defended Darwar so gallantly in the last war,) "In the course of my life I have been present at many battles, but never at the defence of a fort. I have no idea of the proper method of defending this fort; but after the present siege, by God's favour, I will make myself master of this part of the art of war."

When the Sultaun had any business of importance to transact, or any letters to dispatch which required uncommon deliberation, he always devoted one day to his own reflections before he took the opinion of one of his counsellors. After having sufficiently considered the subject in question, he assembled the principal officers of the department of State, and writing, in his own hand, the nature of the subject to be referred to their consideration, he required from each person an answer in writing. He derived little benefit, however, from these deliberations, as most of those who were acquainted with the Sultaun's disposition, accommodated their disposition to his wishes. Some who had his welfare at heart, stated freely what they thought most beneficial, without paying any regard to his prejudices; but on those occasions the Sultaun never failed to manifest great resentment, which he expressed to others, whose sentiments were similar to his own, by saying contemptuously, "What are these fellows about? Are they in their senses? Do give them a little common understanding!" In consequence of this, his real friends, finding their advice had no other effect but to be injurious to themselves or families, were compelled at length to regulate their opinions by his whims and prejudices.

The Sultaun was extremely averse to spirituous liquors, and all kinds of exhilarating drugs, the sale of which he prohibited thro' out his dominions. When Meer Sadduc, his minister, represented to him the extent of the loss which he had sustained in the course of a few years, by his edicts against the sale of these articles, the Sultaun replied, "That kings should be inflexible in their orders—that God had forbidden the use of wines—and that he should persist in exacting a strict obedience to his edicts on that subject."

He was passionately fond of new inventions, on which he lavished immense sums, without reaping any adequate advantage. In his palace was found a great variety of curious swords, daggers, fusils, pistols, and blunderbusses; some were of exquisite workmanship, mounted with gold or silver, and beautifully inlaid and ornamented with tygers' heads and stripes, or with Persian and Arabic verses.

After the peace of 1792, some of his counsellors strongly urged him to discharge the superfluous persons attached to the different departments of his government. To which he replied, "These people are fed by God, not me; therefore I must not discharge them."

He was fond of riding, and particularly excelled in horsemanship. He disapproved of palanquins, hackeries, and all such conveyances, as proper only for women. In his ordinary dress he was very plain, wearing usually a sword flung across his body, with a dagger in his girdle. Whenever he went abroad, either on horseback or otherwise, he was accompanied by a numerous body of attendants, carrying muskets and fowling-pieces; and with this retinue he appeared sometimes on the ramparts during the siege.

During the last fourteen days of the siege, the Sultaun took up his residence in the Cullally Dudy, which was formerly a watergate, through the outer rampart of the north face of the fort, which he closed up about the year 1795. Here he occupied a small stone choultry within the gate, inclosed by curains, forming an apartment, wherein he eat and slept. He had now less the appearance of state than ever; his time was taken up in ordering the detail and distribution of his troops, or in giving directions for the defence of the fort.

He appeared from some of his expressions, as well as the whole of his conduct, to be resolved on defending the fort to the last extremity. He had been often heard to say, "As a man could only die once, it was of little consequence when the period of his existence might terminate:" and whilst buckling on his sword, on the morning of the very day in which he himself fell, a messenger having announced to him that his friend and counsellor Syed Goffar was killed; he replied, with great composure, "Syed Goffar was never afraid of death; let Mahommed Cassim take charge of Syed Goffar's division."

Such was the character of Tippoo Sultaun, a prince of magnanimity in the field, some regularity in the arrangement of his affairs, and abstemiousness in respect to his mode of living.

ANECDOTE.

SOME years ago a fellow was sentenced in Denbigshire, to be cropt for perjury. When the executioner came to fulfil the sentence of the law, he found that the prisoner had undergone the punishment already, which threw the hangman into a passion—"What the deuce!" said the convict, cooly, "am I obliged to furnish you with ears, every time I am sentenced tobe cropt?"

FOR THE PHILADELPHIA REPOSITORY.

Bordentown, N. J. Feb. 28, 1803.

MR. HOGAN.

SIR,

ON returning from a journey of six or seven weeks, I hasted to treat myself with the reading of a file of your very useful and entertaining Repository; six numbers of which were printed in my absence.

In No. 3, page 22, I find myself called upon by SCIOLUS, to say "in what manner the great age of the Antediluveans, the deluge, and various other phenomena recorded in sacred writ, are irreconcileable with the Newtonian System."

I do not know that I can better answer this question, than by giving a few sketches from the outlines of Mr. Raphaelle Peale's Theory; to do which I have his permission.

He supposes the Sun to be an electric body, with an atmosphere of electricity, the whole in vacuo.

An electric body is known to possess the power of attracting bodies not charged with so much electric fluid as itself, and then repelling them. Thus the sun, or grand fountain of electric fluid, attracts our earth, other worlds called planets, comets, &c. and charging them by means of their moist atmospheres without injury, and repelling them to certain distances; when their electric fluid is dissipated, they return gradually to receive another charge.

This accounts for the regular return of comets, their increasing velocity as they approach the sun, and the decreasing force in their recession, together with the appearance of an addition, or increase of a tail.

That our earth was attracted to and repelled from the sun, at the time of the deluge, is to him not in the least doubtful; sufficiently evident from the multitude of years which composed the lives of Adam and his descendants to Noah; the length of time which elapsed before the period of manhood; and the few children they had during the whole course of their imagined long lives; not exceeding the average numbers usual at the present day.

He supposes the earth to have been approaching the sun by electric attraction till the flood; at which period arriving within charging distance, the sudden accession of electric fluid caused the deluge: an effect which may be always observed on a smaller scale in thunder-storms, when at each stroke the rain falls in greater quantities.

Having received a large portion of fluid, it was repelled in the manner before mentioned, and has continued receding perhaps to the present time, when it is almost, or quite at its extreme distance; and the revolutions round the sun and its own axis, rendered in proportion slower; thus accounting for the *apparent* shortening of the life of man.

Adam had numbered 130 revolutions of the earth round the sun, when his third child Seth was born, and lived till he had seen 930. The revolutions of this earth round its own axis and the sun, were performed in such short portions of time, that the days were but little more than hours, and the years two or three weeks of the present time, so that the general ages of our fore-fathers amounted to no more than what is experienced at this day.

Noah had counted 600 revolutions or years when the flood commenced, and had but three children; (here it is necessary to remark our nearest approach to the sun) consequently Noah must have then been young: he lived 350 revolutions after the flood; which portion of time may be computed to have exceeded that of his life before the deluge, from the greater distance to which the earth was then projected; thereby causing its diurnal and annual movements to be performed in greater spaces of time; which is evident from the recorded ages of Noah's descendants. It is not supposed that the earth moved off with such velocity, as at once to decrease the age of man; therefore it is not surprising that he should have witnessed 350 revolutions afterwards.

Abraham, in the 10th generation had a child at the age of 100 years, and Sarah exclaimed, "Who would have said unto Abraham, that Sarah should have given children suck? for I have borne him a child in his old age!"

Sarah died at the age of 127, and Abraham at 175; we see in that generation they acknowledged 100 years to be an old age.

This Theory is supported by the history of the deluge; we are told, every animal was destroyed, but no mention is made of any vegetable being so. As an evidence to the contrary, the dove sent out by Noah, returned with an olive leaf; and when sent again, did not return, having found the means of support elsewhere.

For had the earth been covered with water during the length 150 of our days, every plant must have rotted; but by the calculations deduced from this theory, the real time which was designated by 150 days, viz. 150 revolutions of the earth round its axis, could not have exceeded 6 of our days; and the tops of the mountains could not have been covered even so long.

Previous to the flood, the rainbow appears never to have been observed; this is easily accounted for on these principles; and on *no* other can the Natural Philosopher explain the sudden appearance of a phenomenon, the causes of which are now perfectly comprehended on the principles of optics; for, before the flood, the vicinity of the earth to the sun, and of course its apparent huge diameter, could not exhibit any such appearance; but at a greater distance, the reflection of the coloured rays of light, became visible in the form of an arch.

But, whether we are still moving from, or approaching the sun, cannot be determined without much observation, directed solely to that end. Perhaps at this moment the inhabitants of some other planet are calculating our return as a comet.

That a comet may approach our earth without injuring us, is possible, if we view it as an electric phenomenon; it may be charged by means of our atmosphere at some distance, and then repelled. The standing still of the sun and moon in the days of Joshua, is easily accounted for on this theory; a comet in its due course may have come so near the earth, as to be within the sphere of its attraction, and actually retarded its motion for a few hours.

That the seasons are produced by the action of the charge in our globe, and not in consequence of our being nearer to, or farther from the sun, is perfectly consistent with this principle; and the phenomenon of the tides, which has so divided the philosophic world, no less so.

Many who formerly believed in some secret influence of the moon, on the tides, have rejected it totally from its appearance to astrological superstition, and have substituted various and absurd methods of accounting for them. On this theory it is as follows: the earth receiving the electric fluid on its nearest surface to the sun, and parting with it to the moon on her nearest surface, gives each their diurnal motion, in opposite directions; and the charge of our earth being attracted and condensed on the surface nearest the moon, swells the water in that quarter, and produces the tides and monsoons. H.

OBSERVATION.

BE not diverted from your duty by any idle reflection the silly world may make upon you; for their censures are not in your power, and consequently should not be any part of your concern.

FOR THE PHILADELPHIA REPOSITORY.

MR. EDITOR,

IN your Repository for December last,* a paragraph in Mr. C.'s "Introductory Lecture to Natural Philosophy," particularly attracted my attention. Speaking of the writer who has struck at the foundation of the Newtonian Philosophy, he says he has formed a wrong notion of the latitude of a place.—It would oblige several of Mr. C.'s friends, should he (through the medium of your paper) explain this clearly, and bring a few sufficient proofs whereby we can perceive whether *that writer's* hypothesis is absurd, in regard of the figure of the earth, and cause of the tides; and how he has formed a wrong notion of the latitude of a place. PHILO-PIERRE.

* See Vol. II. page 396.

FOR THE PHILADELPHIA REPOSITORY.

MR. HOGAN,

IN your last number a sapient gentleman recommends bedsteads to be raised 4 inches at the head, to prevent suffocation; and alledges he "has tried the experiment for years, and found it efficacious." Now, Sir, I can declare for myself, and hundreds of my acquaintances, that we have "tried the experiment for years" of sleeping on *level* bedsteads, "and found it efficacious," for we have never been suffocated!!!

QUIZ.

FOR THE PHILADELPHIA REPOSITORY.

MR. HOGAN,

IN perusing the list of Marriages in your last week's Repository, I observed, that of the six brides, *two* were amiable, and *four* were not. For a moment it gave me a sympathetic pain for the gentlemen who had been so unfortunate as to engage themselves for life with unamiable partners; but on communicating my painful sensations to my wife, (who is ever ready to alleviate my pains, and to dissipate my fears and anxieties,) she informed me "that I had mistaken the matter, and had put an erroneous construction on it; as it did not absolutely imply that the four ladies were *not* amiable; for (said she) it by no means follows, that they are not so because they did not chuse to become their own trumpeters."—And then she argued, "that for that very reason she would draw the opposite conclusion." I turned rather sharp upon my wife, for passing an indirect censure on the two amiable ones, by so unjust an inference; when she, to justify her assertion, insisted that "modesty was one of the most amiable qualities, and that these four had certainly discovered the most modesty by not sounding their own fame." Although this, in a great measure silenced me, yet I could not help observing to Mrs. O'Flanagan, that I thought her a little uncharitable in ascribing the publication of their amiable perfections to themselves. She hastily replied, that "altho' they might not publish it themselves, yet they ought to have had so much modesty as not to permit their friends to do it." The longer I persisted, the more obstinate I found Mrs. O'Flanagan grew, and I was obliged to quit the contest. However, Sir, I hope that some abler hand will take up the subject, and convince her that no person would dare to publish to the world an untruth, that is so liable to be detected. I remain, Sir,

Your's, &c.

TANDY O'FLANAGAN.

At Home,
8th March, 1803.

NATURAL HISTORY
OF SPONGE.

SPONGE, improperly written *spunge*, is a kind of marine substance, found adhering to rocks, shells, &c. under cover of sea-water, or on the sides of rocks about the shore.

Naturalists have been much embarrassed to determine, whether to range sponge in the animal, mineral, or vegetable family. Some have imagined it to be a concretion of sea-mud; others have commonly supposed it to be a vegetable production; but it is now allowed to be, like the corallines, of animal origin; being the fabric and habitation of some species of worm or polype.

The greatest part of our sponges are brought from the Mediteranean, especially from Nicaria, an island near the coast of Asia, and west of Samos. Mr. Savary, in his letters on Greece, mentions Syme an island north of Rhodes, as famous for sponges. They grow in abundance round the island; and the fishery, he adds, is the only support of its inhabitants. Men, women and children, all know how to divert and plunge into the water, in search of the only patrimony bestowed on them by nature; for the island, which is only a rock of small extent, extremely stony, produces neither grain nor fruit.

The fine or small sponges are the most esteemed, and usually come to us from Constantinople. Their goodness consists in their being very white and light, and the holes small and close; the larger and coarser come from the coasts of Barbary, particularly about Tunis and Algiers. The sponge is very useful in the arts. In physic, it serves to foment parts inflamed. Taken inwardly, it chokes; and is for that reason cut small, and fried, or dipped in honey, and given to quadrupeds to kill them, which it seldom fails to do, by swelling, and preventing the passage of the food into the intestines.

Sponge, burnt in a close earthen vessel, till it becomes black and pliable, has been given in doses of a scruple, against scrophulous complaints. A sponge applied to bleeding-vessels has been found a very successful method of stopping the effusion of blood. For this purpose, a very dry and solid piece, of cubical or conical form, should be applied in close contact with the vessel, and retained by proper compression, and it will soon adhere with great force. Very large arteries have been prevented from bleeding, by this application.

Moral Essays.
NO. III.

GOOD HUMOUR.

GOOD HUMOUR may be properly termed the *Balm of Being*, the quality to which all that adorns or elevates mankind must owe its power of pleasing. Without good-humour, virtue may indeed awe by its dignity, and amaze by its brightness; but must always be viewed at a distance, and will scarcely gain a friend, or attract an imitator.

Good humour may be defined a habit of being pleased, a constant and perennial softness of manner, easiness of approach, and suavity of disposition; like that which every man perceives in himself, when the first transports of new felicity have subsided, and his thoughts are only kept in motion by a slow succession of soft impulses. It is a state between gaiety and unconcern; the act or emanation of a mind at liesure to regard only the gratification of another.

It is imagined by many, that whenever they aspire to please, they are required to be merry, to shew the gladness of their souls by flights of pleasantry, and bursts of laughter, and to lose all reserve and reflection in overflowing jollity. But though

these men may be courted for a time, and heard with applause and admiration, they seldom delight us long. We enjoy them a little, and then retire to easiness and good-humour, as the eye gazes awhile on eminences glittering with the sun, but soon turns aching away to verdure and to flowers.

Gaiety is to good humour as animal perfumes to vegetable fragrance; the one overpowers weak spirits, and the other recreates and revives them. Gaiety seldom fails to give some pain; the hearers either strain their faculties to accompany its towerings, or are left behind in envy and despair. Good humour boasts no faculties which every one does not believe in his own power, and pleases principally by not offending.

It is well known that the most certain way to give any man pleasure, is to persuade him that you receive pleasure from him, to encourage him to freedom and confidence, and to avoid any such appearance of superiority as may overbear and depress him. We see many that, by this art only, spend their days in the midst of caresses, invitations, and civilities; and without any great qualities, or extraordinary attainments, are the universal favorites of both sexes, and certainly find a friend in every place, because they heighten every man's opinion of himself. The darlings of the world, will, indeed, be generally found such as excite neither jealousy nor fear, and are not considered as candidates for an eminent degree of reputation, but content themselves with common accomplishments, and endeavour rather to solicit kindness than to raise esteem; therefore, in assemblies and places of resort, it seldom fails to happen, that though at the entrance of some particular person every face brightens with gladness, and every hand is extended in salutation, yet, if you pursue him beyond the first exchange of civilities, you will find him of very small importance, and only welcome to the company, as one by whom all conceive themselves admired, and with whom any one is at liberty to amuse himself when he can find no other auditor or companion; as one with whom all are at ease, who will hear a jest without criticism, and a narrative without contradiction; who laughs with every wit, and yields to every disputer.

There are many whose vanity always inclines them to associate with those from whom they have no reason to fear mortification; and there are times in which the wise and the knowing are willing to receive praise without the labour of deserving it; in which the most elevated mind is willing to descend, and the most active to be a rest. All, therefore, are at some hour or another, fond of companions whom they can entertain upon easy terms, and who will relieve them from solitude, without condemning them to vigilance and caution. We are most inclined to love when we have nothing to fear; and he that always indulges us in our present disposition, and encourages us to please ourselves, will not be long without preference in our affection to those whose learning holds us at the distance of pupils, or whose wit calls all attention from us, and leaves us without importance, and without regard.

Good Humor is indeed generally degraded by the characters, in which it is found; for being considered as a cheap and vulgar quality, we find it often neglected by those that have any excellencies of higher reputation and brighter splendor; who perhaps imagine that they have some right to gratify themselves at the expence of others, and are to demand compliance, rather than to practise it. It is by some unfortunate mistake that almost all those who have any claim to esteem or love, press their pretension with too little consideration of others.

Surely nothing can be more unreasonable than to lose the will to please, when we are conscious of the power; or shew more tyranny of disposition, than to chuse any kind of influence before that of kindness. He that regards the welfare of others, should endeavour, to make his virtue approachable, that it may be beloved and copied; and he that considers his own happiness, and the wants which every man feels, or will feel, of external assistance, will rather wish to be surrounded by those that love him, than by those that admire his excellencies, or solicit his favours; for admiration ceases with novelty, and interest gains it end and retires. A man whose great qualities want the ornament of superficial attractions, is like a naked mountain with mines of gold, which will be frequented only till the treasure is exhausted.

FOR THE PHILADELPHIA REPOSITORY.

"SIMPLE QUESTION."

"WHY, barbarous fate, hast thou crushed one mortal so far beneath another?—Why is the one doomed to mechanical servitude, while the other enjoys the pleasing labours of study?—Why must the one be contented with the simple name of scholar, while the other is accosted with the grand appellation of student?" exclaimed I, looking over the last number of the Repository; and beholding the Herculean labours of a "Student." I immediately gathered all the knotty volumes on arithmetic, in my possession, in hopes of finding some hint, which might enable me to solve the question "FROM A STUDENT;" but, alas! in vain;—in vain were the scattered pages of Dilworth collected together;—in vain was every question eagerly examined; no clue could be discovered.—Exasperated at my stupidity, I raged—stamped—swore—tore up the paper and cut all the extravagant capers of a madman.

It was late in the evening, I laid my dull, stupid blockhead upon the table; and thro' the natural hebetude of its contents, was soon buried in a sound sleep. My troubled imagination finding itself at liberty, winged its flight to the scorching regions of Africa; and surprised me with the visionary phantom of a school, which contained a number of scholars employed in different studies. At the farther end of the room sat an aged sire, sober in mein, and of a dark complexion, who was their teacher, and upon enquiry, I was told, his name was Diophantus.

Upon approaching nearer to him, I found him employed in explaining a question to one of the sholars; his words were uttered with such seeming force of mind, that I thought they would never be forgotten: but, as I was listening very attentively to him, the sun became so powerful all on a sudden, that I awoke: when lo! my hair had taken fire by the candle. This disaster so terrified me, that I forgot all he had said, except the conditions of the question, which were as follows:

There is a certain number consisting of two places—the digit in the place of units is equal to twice that in the place of tens, and if the cube of the digit in the place of tens, be added to the number, the order of its digits will be inverted. Query, the number?

JONATHAN.

FOR THE PHILADELPHIA REPOSITORY.

QUESTIONS.

1. What is sentiment, and how is it distinguished from reason?
2. What is Love?
3. What is Beauty, and is it arbitrary in all countries?
4. What is Centrifugal Force?

A SUBSCRIBER.

Original Charade.

MY *first* is honor'd by the barber's care,
And many a gentleman's and lady's hair;
My *second* is of man the noblest part,
Which did he want he need not have a heart;
My *whole*, so common grows in every street;
Perchance may bounce against you should you meet.

RELAXATION.

PHILADELPHIA,
MARCH 12, 1803.

MR. HOGAN,

Observing a publication in your paper of last Saturday (the 5th inst.) with the marriage of "Mr. George Evans, to the amiable Miss Mary Kitts, and Mr. Claudias F. Legrand, to Miss Eliza Kitts, by the rev. Mr. Smith," this is handed you by way of contradiction, as it is a falshood. We are informed, that it was a young lady that brought the above; but this we can scarcely credit, for a YOUNG LADY would not be guilty of such mean low falshoods; or perhaps the young lady is void of both sense and wit,—if so, and she comes forward, and confesses it, it will be some apology for her ignorance, and the only satisfaction we can demand from one of her sex. We have a full description of the person, and can conjecture who it is.

CLAUDIAS F. LEGRAND,
AND
GEORGE EVANS.

[The conduct of the young lady, referred to in the above communication, is extremely reprehensible. It is hoped, however, that by this time, she has seen her error, and will be more on her guard for the future. The affair has been viewed in a serious light by the parties concerned; and ought to operate as a warning to young people against such unhandsome attempts to impose on the public through the medium of periodical publications, where it is not always practicable for the editors to detect them—*Improper actions are sometimes sweet in the commission; but they are always bitter to serious reflection.* *Ed.*]

IMPROVEMENTS & INVENTIONS.

AN account has lately been received from China, of an improved method of cutting glass. This process is the invention of an ingenious Mandarin at Macoa, and is performed by means of hot irons, which is represented to be far superior to the use of the diamond, and will succeed when that jewel fails.

IN Butcher's Treatise on Forest Trees, he says, that the wooden part of a bed made of a yew tree, will most certainly never be approached by bugs. We mention this the rather, as we believe it has been ascertained in London to be a fact, and it may be interesting to the citizens in the populous towns of the Union.

IT has been found by experience, that a quantity of snow, thrown into the well of a foul necessary, decomposes and carries off the offensive contents in its dissolution.

INTELLIGENCE.

The members of the House of Bourbons are scattered over Europe——Louis XVIII, continues at Warsaw; his consort is at Wildungen: the Count D' Artois, with his younger son, the Duc de Barry, is in Scotland; his eldest son, the Duc D'Angouleme, and the Princes, the daughter of the murdered Louis, are with their uncle at Warsaw, while the Lady of the Count D'Artois resides at Klagensurth. The three brothers of the Orleans Family are in England; their mother and sister in Spain; the Prince and Princess de Conde, with the Duc de Bourbon, are in the vicinage of London; the second son is at Ettenheim, with the Cardinal Rohan, and their unmarried daughter is in a convent in Switzerland; the Prince de Conti is at Barcelona, while his wife has her abode in the Helvetic Republic.

The Forest that has been discovered under ground in the Isle of Dogs, is supposed the greatest natural curosity in the British Empire, perhaps in Europe. All that is called antiquity, seems but a yesterday compared with this wonderful ruin, of which there is no tradition whatsoever. Immense trees with their bark uninjured, although their trunks are rotten, glass, charcoal, filbert shells, perfect human bones, &c. &c. are amongst the contents of this unsuspected subterranean.

The Royal Humane Society of England, (of which the King is patron) for the recovery of persons apparently dead by drowning, suffocation, and other sudden accidents, was established in that kingdom in the year 1774; and since that period, has been the providential means of restoring no less than 2679 persons, who otherwise would, in all humane probability, have suffered a premature interment.

From an Edinburgh Paper.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER.

While I was at Smyrna there was a girl afflicted with a cancer in her lips, and the gum was effected. The Europeans consulted on the measures to be taken, and agreed that they saw no other method than to cut it out; and the girl had already submitted herself to that decision. By an accident of that nature which men cannot account for, an old Armenian came to them just in time to prevent the application of the knife. "Do nothing," said the Armenian, "I will cure her;" and when he had pledged himself strongly, the physicians consented. He procured a copper vessel newly tinned, in the inside (an essential circumstance) and having poured a considerable quantity of olive oil into it, he made it boil over a small fire sufficient to keep it gently agitated, and so for three times in twenty-four hours. While thus the oil resolved itself, by constantly rubbing the part affected, he cured her in fourteen days.—Nothing else was was done. The physicians supposed that the oil received its virtue from the tin, and it was communicated by its long boiling over the fire."

Marriages.

MARRIED, on the 3d inst. at Friends' meeting in this city, Mr. *Samuel Pancoast*, to Mrs. *Mary Morris*.

——— on the 9th inst. by the rev. Dr. Blackwell, General *William M'Pherson*, to Miss *Elizabeth White*, daughter of Bishop White.

——— on the 10th inst. by the Right Rev. Bishop White, *Hugh Roberts*, Esq. to Miss *Sarah Logan Smith*.

——— Same evening, by the Rev. Mr. Milledoler, Capt. *Daniel T. Jouet*, of Elizabeth-town, N. J. to Miss *Margaret Gilmore*, of this city.

Deaths.

DIED, on the 23d inst. in the borough of Huntingdon, of a violent attack of the apoplexy, (to which he was sometimes subject) Doct. *James Nesbitt*, in the 34th year of his age.

——, at Germantown, in the County of Herkemer, New York, on the 3d ultimo, Mr. Peter Richason, of a Hydrophobia, aged 20; the particulars of his being bitten, are as follow: on or about the 15th of January last, a strange dog came into the house of Mr. Richason, he having a mind to coax the dog to stay with him, took a piece of bread, held it up in his hand, the dog jumped to catch it, and bit him on the hand; some slight suspicion arose in his mind, that the dog was mad; he immediatly took down his gun and shot him. The wound on his hand was attended with a slight inflammation but soon healed over with a scab: upon this he abandoned all suspicion of the dog's being mad, of course no remedy was prescribed to destroy the deadly poison. On the 29th he began to complain of a pain across his shoulders and down the small of his back; these complaints still increasing until the next day, when he communicated to the family his suspicion of his situation, and related the circumstance of the dog. He was by turns afflicted with violent convulsions and in his spasms showed a propensity to bite; notwithstanding his legs being tied he would scramble about the room on his hands and knees, he would also bark, howl, whine, scratch and bite the ceiling, in imitation of a dog; at times he appeared to be perfectly rational, and sensible of his situation; would warn the family to be on their guard, least in his ravings he should bite some one of them. Thus he continued to grow weaker until the 3d ultimo, when he expired; it being 19 days from the time he was bitten, and 6 from the commencement of the spasms.

TO CORRSPONDENTS.

"*The Curate*," a *fragment*, from Penrose's poems, will be published as soon as possible.

Lines inscribed to Miss Mary B——, in our next.

Quatralnes' communications are under consideration.

☞ *The Subscribers to the Philadelphia Repository, are respectfully informed, that their 29th payment of 25 Cents, will be collected by the Carriers, on Saturday next.*

TEMPLE of the MUSES.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

MR. HOGAN,

I copied the following from the original draught, which I solicited from a friend: and, I confess, I did it with the view that it might appear in print; because I think that, on more accounts than one, it deserves to be made public. The readers of the Repository will, I hope, think so too, when they find that it is the production of the tuneful little warbler, who, by the name of JUNIA, has heretofore so pleasingly carolled her *infant*, artless strains. I would just premise, however, that it is an *Address by one of the present Pupils* of the Young Ladies' Academy, in this city, *to her intimate Friend*, who had been one of her classmates, and who, a few days since, left that Seminary, upon the finishing of her education. A.

TO MISS S—— P——.

SINCE it is cruel Fate's severe decree
That separates my worthy friend from me;
And since I'm of her presence now depriv'd
From which I friendship's choicest sweets deriv'd:
Thus, will I draw a portrait, fair and true,
Of qualities that meet and shine in you;
And thus, since I th' original can't claim,
Will keep the copy to endear the name.

Your well-known modesty must not refuse
To hear your praises from my infant muse:
When charms and merit both invite the strain,
And friendship prompts,...shall they all plead in vain?
With me, they cannot—Ev'ry blushing charm
Commands th' encomiastic tribute warm.

The first fair object that attracts my lay,
Is your sweet face where smiles and dimples play:
That open countenance your peace bespeaks,
While rosy health blooms on your lovely cheeks.
Those eyes which sparkle with enliv'ning fire,
That knowledge beam, to which we all aspire;
But which alas! perhaps will ne'er be ours,
Without a strength of Genius, such as yours.

All your external charms, tho' half divine,
Are not to be compar'd to those within:
Your Mind—a Mind with ev'ry virtue fraught—
Claims, therefore, ev'ry praise and ev'ry thought.
There, knowledge, and each graceful Art reside;
There, Wisdom, Science, and their train abide;
There, Virtue reigns upon a blissful throne,
For, there, is baleful Passion never known:
No Vice intrusive dares her peace molest,
Or cause a tumult in that lovely breast.

Cheer'd by the blessings Heav'n has kindly lent,
Virtue, Peace, Happiness and sweet Content,
Thus pass your days, all tranquil and serene,
Without one cloud to dim the brighten'd scene:
And oh! may thus your days for ever glide
Serenely down Life's fluctuating tide;
May smiling Heav'n still bliss you with His love,
Till call'd to brighter climes of bliss above!

A—— C——.

HINTS

TO THE GAY AND THOUGHTLESS.

IN Mirth, how many dance the hours away!
In transient pleasures spend the short-liv'd day,
In joys ideal the golden moments fleet,
Nor once discovering the delusive cheat.
Lull'd in the lap of fond security,
Dreaming of freedom,—still in slavery!
How swift it glides!—Mortality a span,
An airy phantom!—View the Life of Man!
Triumphant death doth his dread sceptre wield,
Comes on apace, and bids the mortal yield.
From cradled infancy to manhood's stage;
And from meredian life to hoary age,—
Exulting still,—the conquering tyrant stalks;
In hideous shapes he haunts our various walks.
In mixture strange and terrible array!
His motley train wait round without delay.
Old Age! death's true ally, and trusty friend,
First in the class,—success doth e'er attend;
Then come diseases thick,—with horrid gloom,
To hurry mortals to the silent tomb!
There scorching *Fever* racks the very soul!
Consumption, wan, here rules without controul!
Palsy, half warm with life!—joint-tottering *Gout!*
And gnawing *Rheum!*—attend the ghastly route;
Apoplex', *Asthma*, and *Convulsion* wild!
Swoln *Dropsy*, too—of death a fav'rite child;
The *Pestilence* that walks in dark dismay,
The sickness that destroys at broad noon-day;
These, and a thousand more, loudly declare,
"O ISRAEL! TO MEET THY GOD PREPARE!!"

S.

RUSTIC FESTIVITY.

SEE the Rustics collected their mirth to pursue,
And loudly for music demand:
Old Simon again must his Viol renew,—
And prepar'd for the dance they all stand.
Here *Content* is pursu'd,
Care dare not intrude,
Good-nature in each one is found;
Here *Simplicity* reigns,
And *Contentment* proclaims,
While the joke is pass'd merrily round.

Now see with what pleasure the aged gaze on,
Their feats of activity praise;
Old Simon encouraged, with vigor plays on,
And his musical pow'r displays.
Each youth doth his girl,
With velocity whirl,
By emulation each couple is fir'd;
Still good-nature prevails,
But their strength it soon fails
And the music declares he is tir'd.

LEONTES.

ADDRESS TO SLEEP.

COME, balmy Sleep, thou foe to noise and riot,
While all around is wrapt in night's dim shades;
All nature hush'd in still repose and quiet,
And awful silence all the air pervades:

Wrapt in thy arms mankind are now reclining,
Whose peaceful minds are undisturb'd with care;
Where sweet contentment banishes repining,
And hope's sweet pleasures triumph o'er despair—

On me, O Sleep, bestow again thy blessing,
Oh let me feel once more the joys of rest;
Drive from my bosom ev'ry care oppressing,
And hush the tumult of my troubled breast.

Long have I been a prey to pain and anguish,
Long sought the blessings of repose to gain,
(Condemn'd beneath a load of woe to languish)
And in oblivion bury all my pain.

Oft have I rested on my couch, contented,
My mind at ease, and free from ev'ry care;
Ah then no dire misfortunes I lamented,
Then from my eyes ne'er fell the bitter tear.

But now scarce are my weary eye-lids closed,
When busy fancy paints my woes to view;
Then, from disturbed, broken slumbers roused,
Old wounds stream 'fresh, old sorrows seem as new.

On me, O Sleep, bestow again thy blessing,
Oh let me feel once more the joys of rest;
Drive from my bosom ev'ry care oppressing,
And hush the tumult of my troubled breast.....

But vain the pray'r! far from the wretch thou fliest,
And hover'st round the cheerful peasant's head,—
Whilst thou thy comforts unto me deniest,
Regardless of my pray'r thou fliest my bed.

CARLOS.

SELECTED.

Communicated for the Philadelphia Repository.

TO A RED-BREAST.

BY DR. LANGHORNE.

LITTLE Bird, with bosom red,
Welcome to my humble shed!
Courtly domes of high degree
Have no room for thee and me:
Pride and Pleasure's fickle throng
Nothing mind an idle song.
Daily near my table steal,
While I pick my scanty meal;
Doubt not, little tho' there be,
But I'll cast a crumb to thee;
Well rewarded, if I spy
Pleasure in thy glancing eye:
See thee, when thou'st eat thy fill
Plume thy breast, and wipe thy bill.
Come, my feather'd friend, again,
Well thou know'st the broken pane;
Ask of me thy daily store;
Go not near Avaro's door;
Once within his iron hall,
Woful end shall thee befall.
Savage!—he would soon divest
Of its rosy plumes thy breast;
Then, with solitary joy,
Eat thee, bones and all, my boy.